

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Dee Brown, on February 6, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 335 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Sen. Dee Brown, Chair (R)  
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Sue Malek (D)  
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)  
Sen. Frank Smith (D)  
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Barbara Pietuch, Committee Secretary  
Rachel Weiss, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 79, 1/26/2017; HB 81, 1/26/2017; SB 149, 1/26/2017; SB 152, 1/26/2017

00:00:10 Chair Brown

**HEARING ON SB 152**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:01 Sen. Jon Sesso (D), SD 37, opened the hearing on SB 152, Revise laws relating to state employees.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:49 Amy Sassano, deputy budget director, Office of Budget and Program Planning, Governor's Office

00:05:37 Erik Burke, representing Montana Education Association - Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT); Montana Primary Care Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:06:34 Marjorie Thomas, attorney, State Human Resources Division, Office of Legal Services, Department of Administration

00:06:57 Amber Godbout, attorney, Health Care & Benefits Division, Office of Legal Services, Department of Administration (DOA)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:07:28 Chair Brown

00:08:19 Sen. Sesso

00:09:27 Chair Brown

00:09:38 Ms. Godbout, DOA

00:10:08 Chair Brown

00:10:25 Mr. Godbout

00:11:14 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:11:20 Sen. Sesso

**HEARING ON SB 149**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:12:08 Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R), SD 22, opened the hearing on SB 149, Revise times state officers and candidates file business disclosure reports.

**EXHIBIT**(sts26a01)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

00:20:13 Jonathan Motl, commissioner, Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)  
[EXHIBIT](#)(sts26a02)

00:29:48 Claudette Morton, volunteer, Montana League of Women Voters

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:30:43 Chair Brown  
00:31:36 Mr. Motl, COPP  
00:31:48 Chair Brown  
00:32:10 Mr. Motl  
00:33:08 Chair Brown  
00:33:16 Sen. Whitford  
00:33:30 Mr. Motl  
00:34:30 Sen. Whitford  
00:35:03 Sen. Kary  
00:35:47 Chair Brown  
00:36:00 Sen. Kary  
00:36:15 Sen. Whitford  
00:36:33 Sen. Kary  
00:37:16 Sen. Whitford  
00:37:22 Sen. Kary  
00:37:33 Sen. Whitford  
00:37:50 Chair Brown  
00:38:28 Sen. Kary  
00:38:51 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:59 Sen. Kary

**HEARING ON HB 79**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:39:49 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 79, Modify when a military member may be turned over to civil authorities for trial.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:41:03 Major General Matthew Quinn, adjutant general, Montana National Guard,  
director, Department of Military Affairs  
[EXHIBIT](#)(sts26a03)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:43:37 Major Mike Talia, JAG attorney, Montana National Guard (MNG)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:43:56 Sen. Swandal  
00:44:08 Mr. Talia, MNG  
00:44:39 Chair Brown  
00:44:43 Sen. Swandal  
00:44:56 Mr. Talia  
00:45:09 Sen. Kary  
00:45:36 Mr. Talia  
00:46:39 Chair Brown  
00:46:55 Mr. Talia  
00:47:08 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:47:20 Rep. Curdy

**HEARING ON HB 81**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:48:15 Rep. Willis Curdy (D), HD 98, opened the hearing on HB 81, Revise publication and distribution requirements for MAR and ARM.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:49:05 Jeff Hindoien, chief legal counsel, Montana Secretary of State (SOS)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:40 Chair Brown  
00:57:18 Mr. Hindoien, SOS  
00:59:41 Chair Brown  
01:00:35 Mr. Hindoien  
01:01:07 Chair Brown  
01:01:21 Mr. Hindoien  
01:01:33 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:01:39 Rep. Curdy

**Committee Business**

01:03:42      Chair Brown

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:05 PM

---

Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

bp

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sts26aad.pdf](#))**